Open house to show downtown Aurora plan

Chicagotribune.com/suburbs/aurora-beacon-news/news/ct-abn-aurora-downtown-st-0618-20170616-story.html

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People in Aurora will get a chance to see the draft Downtown Master Plan during an open house coming up.

The plan is an update of the 2005 Seize the Future Master Plan to strengthen downtown Aurora's vitality and create a more livable, walkable downtown, city officials said.

It has been a city of Aurora project, along with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, or CMAP, which provided the technical assistance for the update as part of grant to the city.

The planning agency and city officials have been working on the plan for more than a year, and are ready to get more public input on what has been done.

The open house will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the Meyer Ballroom in the Paramount Theater, 8 E. Galena Blvd.

The draft downtown master plan will be available for public review and comment before beginning the formal review process with the City Council.

From 4 to 6 p.m., the event will use an open house format that allows attendees to learn about the downtown master plan and provide input at their own pace.

Aurora Mayor Richard Irvin will give some remarks at 6 p.m., after which there will be an open dialogue discussion with participants. City and CMAP representatives will be on hand to gather feedback, answer questions and provide clarification.

According to a press release on the event, some of the areas the plan will focus on include: the downtown experience; revitalizing the downtown economy; activating downtown through arts and culture, the heart of downtown: The Fox River; mobility: getting to and around downtown Aurora; and building the downtown community.

Each focus area includes a vision statement, key findings, and a set of recommendations with a description of actions to be undertaken, officials said.

More information about the downtown Aurora master plan is available at cmap.is/lta-aurora.